

REFLECTION
AT THE END OF THE
SCHOOL YEAR

SUMMER 2026

MAY: THE MONTH OF MARY

- In the month of May, we celebrate Mary in a special way.
- This time last year, we were in Knock for the *Loreto Pilgrimage of Hope* in the Jubilee Year.
- Let us visit the Knock Shrine website this month to learn about the tradition of honoring Our Lady in our homes and schools during the month of May - a tradition that has been passed down through the generations...

MAKING A MAY ALTAR

• <https://www.knockshrine.ie/preparing-your-may-altar-at-home/>

• **IMAGE:** The staff and pupils of Loreto Primary School, Grange Road celebrate the *Crowning of Mary* with a special prayer service.





Queen of the May

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TvSEXkBoX8>



That
everyone *might have*
food

We pray that
all might have
food...

- This month, may we respond to Pope Leo's prayer intention for May that everyone might have food.
- Let us pray that all people, from large producers to small consumers will be committed to avoiding food-waste, and to ensuring that everyone has access to quality food.
- <https://www.popesprayer.va/praywiththepope/>

Feast of St. Joseph the Worker

1 May

1 May is celebrated as Worker's day or Labour day. It is a day to celebrate human work and its contribution to our world.

We also recognise the rights of workers to a living wage and good working conditions.



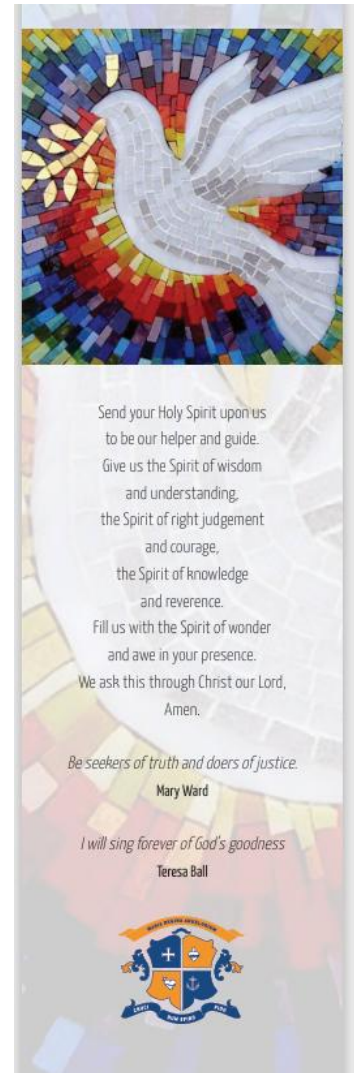


Feast of St. Joseph the Worker 1 May

- The picture that emerges of St Joseph in scripture is that he is a worker, a carpenter, a protector.
- He is generous, loving, and courageous; a good husband to Mary and a caring guardian for Jesus.
- Joseph is a person of great faith and trust, a person of wisdom.

CONFIRMATION

We pray for all our pupils who have celebrated the sacrament of Confirmation this year.



Send your Holy Spirit upon us
to be our helper and guide.
Give us the Spirit of wisdom
and understanding,
the Spirit of right judgement
and courage,
the Spirit of knowledge
and reverence.
Fill us with the Spirit of wonder
and awe in your presence.
We ask this through Christ our Lord,
Amen.

Be seekers of truth and doers of justice.

Mary Ward

I will sing forever of God's goodness

Teresa Ball





Wishing every blessing to
the First Holy Communion classes
in Loreto Schools
in Ireland

We pray for all our
pupils who have
celebrated the
sacrament of
First Holy
Communion
this year.



We love you Lord Jesus.
Stay with us we pray.
Help us to be more like
you each day
Your love for us,
our love for you,
we celebrate today.
Fill our hearts
with peace and joy.
Be with us Lord
we pray.



We now take time to pray for those in our school community who have lost loved ones during the year.

The Clouds' Veil

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g3hsBGwQjBw>


10 May 2026
Mass of Remembrance
Loreto College, St Stephen's Green

We pray for all who have died in our Loreto Community.

This year marks forty years since the tragedy of the fire in Loreto on the Green in which six Loreto sisters lost their lives.

We remember them in prayer. We also pray for their families, the Loreto Community, and all who were affected by this great loss.





**Loving God,
we remember in prayer all in our Loreto family
who have died.**

Today we remember especially those who have died recently.

**In the silence of our hearts, we pray for them with love and
gratitude.**

**We pray for comfort and healing for their families and friends
and for all who mourn.**

LAUDATO SI WEEK 2026

From Hope to Action

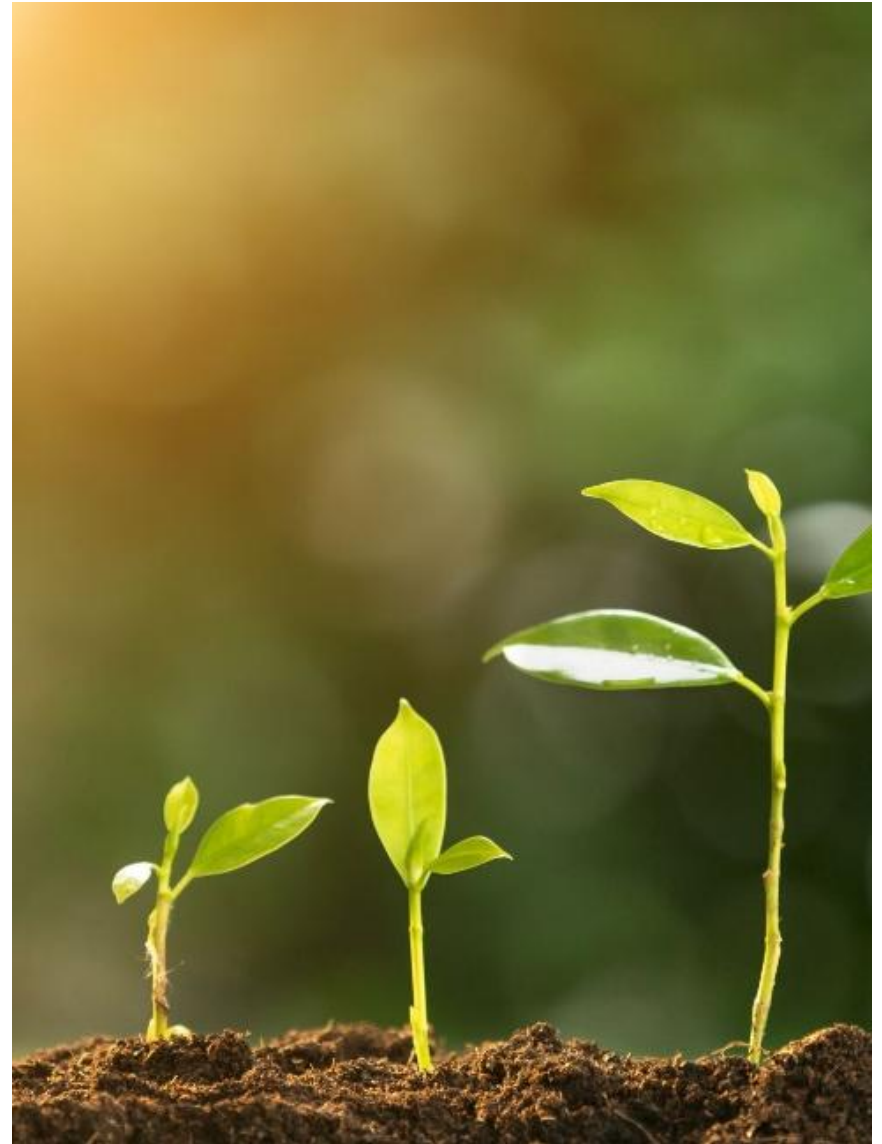
May 17-24, 2026

See
<https://laudatosiweek.org/>

Each year, at the end of May, we unite across the world to mark the date Laudato Si' was signed by Pope Francis.

"Hope would have us recognize that there is always a way out, that we can always redirect our steps, that we can always do something to solve our problems."

LS 61



This Prayerbook
may be accessed
at :

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1MrUlwe7W6PuYJnuGynJfswO5c1Zh02H/view>





MASS FOR CREATION - SUGGESTIONS ON HOW TO CELEBRATE

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1WC3rnP57U7RoovMETjNYwG8fOMDc16im/view>



John Rutter: For the beauty of the earth

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PTOfSKXkRa0>

24 May 2026 – Pentecost Sunday

- 1st Reading: Acts 2:1-11
- *The Spirit of God gives energy to the apostles and sends them out on their mission.*
- Responsorial: Psalm 103: 1, 24, 29-31, 34
- *R./: Lord, send out your Spirit and renew the face of the earth.*
- 2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:3-7, 12-13
- *It is through the Spirit that Christ works in his community, the church.*
- Gospel: John 20:19-23
- *The disciples receive the Holy Spirit to continue the mission of Jesus.*
- *Image: The Descent of the Holy Spirit on the Apostles and Mary at Pentecost by Elizabeth Wang.*



28 May:

***Faith and Music
Day for Primary
Schools***

We look forward to welcoming
staff and pupils from Loreto primary
schools to our
Faith and Music Day in
Loreto Senior Primary School, Crumlin.



PEACE

WE CONTINUE TO
PRAY FOR PEACE
IN OUR WORLD
THIS SUMMER

PEACE

Jesus said to them again,
“Peace *be* to you; just as
the Father has sent Me, I
also send you.”

John 20:21





Let us turn to a Kingdom of peace that is built up day by day—
in our homes, schools, neighborhoods,
and civil and religious communities.

A Kingdom that counters polemics and resignation through
friendship and a culture of encounter.

Let us believe once again
in love, moderation and good politics.

We must form ourselves and get personally involved,
each following our own calling.

Everyone has a place in the mosaic of peace!
(Pope Leo XIV, 11 April, 2026)

PRAYER
FOR
PEACE



DEEP PEACE OF CHRIST TO OUR WORLD

Deep peace of the running wave to you
Deep peace of the flowing air to you
Deep peace of the quiet earth to you
Deep peace of the shining stars to you
Deep peace of the gentle night to you

Moon and stars pour their healing light on you
Deep peace of Christ,
Of Christ, the light of the world to you
Deep peace of Christ to you.

(A Gaelic Blessing)





A Student's Prayer

- Lord, I know you are with me and love me.
Give me peace of mind as I prepare for this time of study.
Help me to focus on my books and notes,
keep me from all distractions so that I will make the best use
of this time that is available to me.
Give me insight that I might understand what I am studying ,
and help me to remember it when the time comes.
Above all, I thank you for the ability to be able to study
and for the many gifts and talents you have given me.
Help me always to use them in such a way
that they honour you and do justice to myself.
Amen



Prayer Before Exams

- Lord you are my friend and you are with me today and always.
You have blessed my life with many gifts and talents.
As the exams approach I feel nervous so I pray for your peace.
Calm my mind so that I can think clearly and write down what I know.
Help me to remember what I have learned and to do my best.
Lord, your loving presence surrounds me.
Help me to trust that you will guide me always.
Amen. (Adapted from Salesians)



**A REFLECTION
AT THE END OF THE SCHOOL YEAR**



Step One: Become aware of God's presence.

Ask the Holy Spirit
to help you review the
year with faith, hope and
love...
in a wholesome way...
not judging...
all is well
and will be well...





Step Two: Review the year with gratitude.

Pay attention to the
gifts we received
this year.

Name those that come
to mind and
thank God for them.



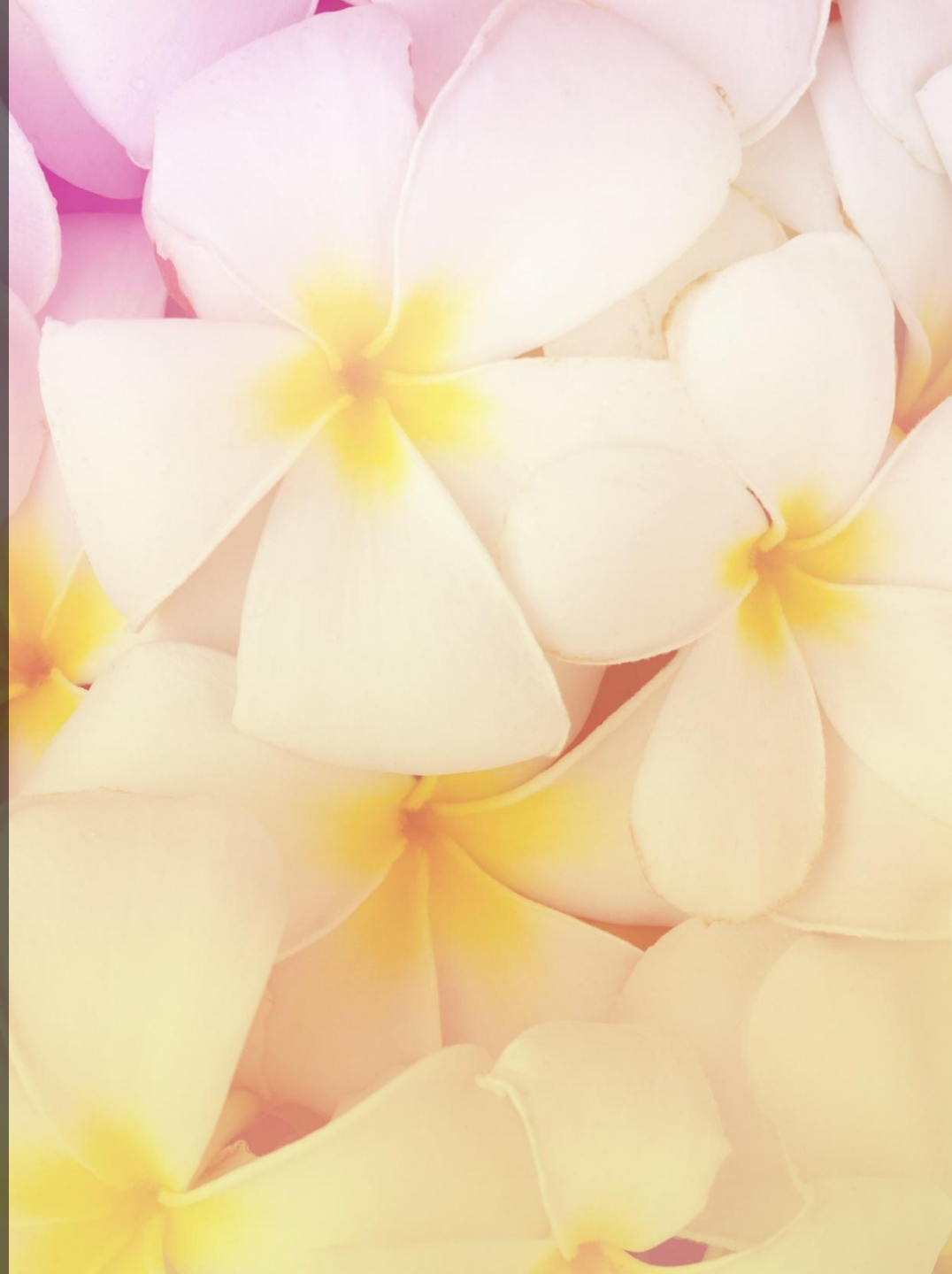
Step Three: Pay attention to your emotions.

Think over the year again and notice your emotional reactions.

What memories speak most loudly to you?

What events, conversations, relationships, or activities bring up the most emotion now, as you remember them?

Ask God to help you stay with these emotions. What can you learn about yourself or about your situation from these feelings?



Step Four: Choose one feature of the year and pray about it.

While you are reflecting on your memories and emotions, let one aspect come to mind. It may be a single event, or maybe it's a pattern of your own behavior that has come to mind as you reviewed the year.

Stay with the one thing that has come to you with the most power and pray from those thoughts and emotions.



The background of the slide features a sunset over a mountain range. The sun is a bright yellow circle in the center-left, with a gradient of colors from yellow to purple in the sky. In the foreground, the silhouettes of four people are shown climbing a steep, rocky mountain slope. One person is at the top, with arms raised in a gesture of triumph. Another person is just below, reaching out to help the next person up. A third person is further down, and a fourth is at the bottom, also reaching up. The overall mood is one of perseverance and achievement.

Entrust everything to God

When you look for me, you will find me. Yes, when you seek me with all your heart, you will find me with you. (Jeremiah 29:13)

Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened to you. (Matthew 7)

I have loved you with an everlasting love. (Jeremiah 31:3)

Step Five:
Look towards
the Summer
...with faith,
hope,
love,
joy and
gratitude...



A close-up, low-angle shot of a person's feet as they walk on a rugged, rocky trail. The person is wearing dark brown hiking boots with red accents on the soles and laces. They are also wearing light blue socks and dark brown leggings. The ground is covered in small, grey rocks and dry, brown pine needles. The background is a blurred, hazy landscape of rolling hills under a bright sky. The text "WE MAKE THE PATH BY WALKING IT" is overlaid on the left side of the image in a bold, red, sans-serif font with a black outline.

**WE MAKE
THE PATH BY
WALKING IT**

At The End Of The Year

John O'Donohue

*As this year draws to its end,
We give thanks for the gifts it brought
And how they became inlaid within
Where neither time nor tide can touch them.
The days when the veil lifted
And the soul could see delight;
When a quiver caressed the heart.*

*Days when beloved faces shone brighter
With light from beyond themselves;
And from the granite of some secret sorrow
A stream of buried tears loosened.
We bless this year for all we learned,
For all we loved and lost
And for the quiet way it brought us
Nearer to our invisible destination.*





MAY THE ROAD RISE TO MEET YOU
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tn9hLK2nmPM>





**In harmony with our theme this year,
Where one is – we all are...,
we pray in song with the following
specially composed pieces for all
Mary Ward Schools around the world.**

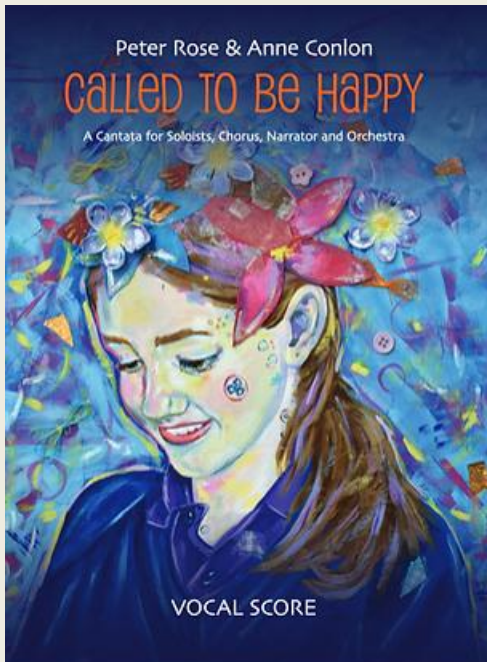


Loreto World Anthem

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hLHQiCXfbNI>



CALLED TO BE HAPPY



'Be Yourself' from
Called to be Happy
- a cantata written
in honour of Mary Ward,
commissioned by the Maria Ward
Schule, Mainz, Germany
in celebration of their
300th Anniversary
and composed by
Peter Rose and Anne Conlon.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6t0hJC1-hGw>

BE YOURSELF

Be yourself, what you really are,

In all you say, in all you do.

The Lord needs labourers to do his work

So use the talents which he gave to you.

Don't hide those talents in clamour and noise

Or drown them in black despair,

But seek them out and use them well,

For these gifts from God are yours to share.



BE YOURSELF

- Be yourself, what you really are,
In all you say, in all you do.
The Lord needs labourers to do his work
So use the talents which he gave to you.
If the world you see seems tattered and torn
And you fear tomorrow may never come,
Don't clutter your life with things of no worth,
Don't cower away, helpless and dumb.





I came that you may have life,
and have it abundantly.
John 10, 10.